

IN THE CLAIMS

5 1. A reconfigurable network-equipment power-management system, comprising:

 a power-controller device having a serial interface for communicating with a user, and a plurality of power-control ports that are able to interrupt operating power to a
10 corresponding plurality of co-located computer data network appliances;

 a user configuration file for affecting said plurality of power-control ports;

 a memory disposed in the power-controller device
15 and providing for storage of the user configuration file; and

 a file transfer mechanism for importing and exporting the user configuration file to said user via said serial interface.

20 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

 a computer data network interfaced to support the file transfer mechanism and communication with a user at a remote location.

25 3. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

 a command mechanism for recognizing a user command to upload the user configuration file from the memory to a destination.

30 4. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

 a command mechanism for recognizing a user command to download a substitute user configuration file to the memory from a source.

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an editor for modifying said user configuration file into a substitute user configuration file for downloading to the memory and eventual use to control said plurality of power-control ports.

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10. A method for managing user configuration data in a reconfigurable network-equipment power-management system, the method comprising the steps of:

operating a plurality of power-control ports such
10 that they are dependent on a user configuration file;
uploading a copy of said user configuration file
over a data communication channel; and
downloading a substitute user configuration file
over said data communication channel to replace said user
15 configuration file.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

checking the integrity of said user configuration
20 file and aborting if corrupted.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

checking the integrity of said user configuration
25 file and adopting it for use if not corrupted.

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